

CHAMBERS, S. 2009.

Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Grey ternlet: pp 200-201.



GREY TERNLET

Family Sternidae

Species *Procelsterna cerulea*

Common name Grey Ternlet

Status Native

Abundance Uncommon

Size 280 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, White-fronted Tern 400 mm)

Habitat Coastal offshore islands in Northland and the Bay of Plenty.

Worldwide range A bird of the Pacific tropics and sub-tropics.

New Zealand range Breeds on the Kermadec Islands, on West Island in the Three Kings group and Volkner Rocks off White Island. A regular visitor to the Mokohinau Islands east of Little Barrier Island.

Description

Crown Whitish with dark eye. **Upperparts** Delicate blue-grey with dark primaries on wings. **Wings** Blue-grey with a thin white trailing edge. **Underparts** Light grey.

Where to find

Bay of Islands – Sometimes seen in deeper water.

Northland – A visit to the Mokohinau Islands north-east of Little Barrier Island offers the easiest and best chance of seeing this bird. P. 289.

Bay of Plenty – Sometimes seen on route to White Island from Tauranga.